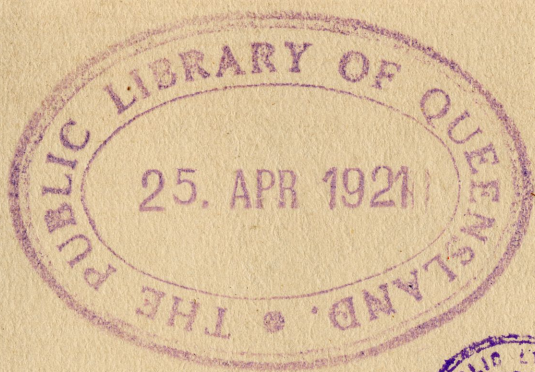


QUEENSLAND
SOLDIERS'
COMFORTS
FUNDS

RBJ
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QUE





Granstone

Russell St.

S. Brisbane

April 20 1921



The Curator

The Public Library
Brisbane.

Sir

I am directed
by my Committee to offer for your
acceptance a bound copy of the
reports of the Queensland Branch
of the Australian Comforts Fund, &
of the Queensland Battalions Comforts
Funds.

The booklet; which I am forwarding
under separate cover, is a short resume
of a part of the work done by
Queensland Women during the

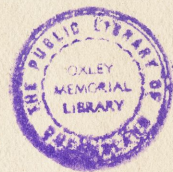
War, & as such, is part of the
history of that time.

Trusting it will reach you
safely I am

Yours truly

Jane E. Bourne

Hon. Sec: Comforts Reports Committee





"AT HOME" given by LADY COWLEY, O.B.E., to Workers of Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Funds,
at "Silky Oaks," Toowong, on April 24th, 1919.

REPORT
OF THE
WORK DONE
BY THE
Queensland Soldiers'
Comforts Funds,
1915-1919.



Brisbane :
C. J. WALKER, Print., 129 George Street,
1919.

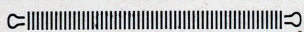
*Queensland Soldiers'
Comforts Fund.*



1915-19.



The Australian Comforts Fund.



T the outbreak of the War it became obvious that the duty of keeping the "well" man well was as important as that of caring for the sick and wounded, and very quickly Committees were formed in each of the States with the object of providing such comforts for the men on active service "as would help to preserve their health and spirits, and thus maintain the efficiency of our forces." These Committees were gradually associated together as Australian Comforts Funds (the Queensland Patriotic Fund being the Queensland Division) with very extensive organisations both in Australia for collecting the "Comforts," and at the various fronts for distributing them.

It is interesting to note that the earliest beginning of the latter branch of the work was a small Committee, consisting principally of Queenslanders, established in May, 1915, under Colonel Hubert Harris, in Cairo. Col. Harris, seeing what good could be done for our men on the Peninsula by people close at hand, who could actually know what the most pressing needs were, cabled to the Queensland Patriotic Fund asking for money to carry on this work, which was immediately and generously supplied. After this, the growth was rapid. Mr. Henry Budden, appointed as Commissioner for the Sydney War Chest, consented to act for all Australian Comforts Funds—his services being purely honorary—and very soon there were continuous and ever increasing supplies of clothing, foodstuffs, tobacco, etc., being forwarded from Australia to the depots provided for them in Egypt and on Gallipoli, from whence they could be issued to the troops on application by the Commanding Officer, or at the discretion of the A.C.F. agent in charge. Books, games, and any minor comforts that were required were put on the

The Australian Comforts Fund.

transports for the use of the men, and any special appeal from the Navy was responded to immediately. In the beginning parcels for individuals were also forwarded, but as the work of the A.C.F. extended, it became impossible to cope with that branch, and it was found necessary to give it up altogether.

The strength of the A.C.F. lay in the fact that the Commissioners could act quickly—supplying men ordered off on short notice, or “details away from their proper units,” who would have found it impossible to complete their equipment in the usual way from the ordnance. Also the passing of all gifts through the same channels prevented overlapping and waste. For instance, when the special efforts at Christmas time were so successful that the Australian troops were over-supplied, the extra Christmas boxes were handed on to British “Tommies” who had none, and on another occasion, several hundred shirts and socks were issued from the A.C.F. surplus to the Servians, who were in great need of them.

After the evacuation of Gallipoli a large depot was still kept in Cairo to supply the troops in Egypt and Mesopotamia, but most of the supplies were sent on to France, where a new scheme was embarked upon. This was the organising of coffee stalls as close as possible to the firing line, providing hot coffee or cocoa, biscuits, soup, or cigarettes, free of charge, to the men going up to or coming out of the trenches, and proved one of the most successful and keenly appreciated efforts of the fund.

So, up to the signing of the armistice, the work has been carried on with increasing enthusiasm, and, as experience showed, the needs of the men and the best way to supply them, increasing efficiency. The co-operation of the military authorities has been of course essential to the success of the work, and the A.C.F. realises how impossible it would have been to cope with the difficulties that beset them, especially in the matter of transport, if it had not been for the generous and ready help afforded them by officers in charge.

The Australian Comforts Fund.

That the efforts of the A.C.F. were appreciated by the military authorities may be seen by the fact that the Commissioners are awarded honorary rank in the Army, while the appreciation of the men may be judged by the following extracts from a few of the letters received from the front:—

From General Birdwood to Commissioner Budden :—

“ I hope we shall have a chance of giving the boys a bit more time to themselves in which to shake down and re-organise. It is during this period that I am hoping for much assistance from your A.C.F. and the Y.M.C.A. and Dexter to do all we possibly can to help and amuse these men.”

From Lt.-Col. H. E. Ley, O.C. 6th Brigade Field Artillery:—

“ This Brigade yesterday received an issue from your store of tinned fruits, porridge, condensed milk, sweets, tobacco and cigarettes. The liberal scale of the supply, the excellence of the goods, our own Australian brands, and the comfort which they are giving, are all alike the subject of universal pleasurable comment amongst the men—“ They don't forget us, bless them”—as one of the Gunners remarked in my hearing last night.”

From Gen. C. B. E. White:—

“ This Fund has done so much for the A.I.F. and done it so efficiently, that my personal thanks to them, seems a poor and inadequate thing, but rest assured that the gratitude behind it is real and very appreciative.”

Private Boyle, D.C.M. :—

“ We should like Queenslanders to know how much we appreciate what they enable the Comforts Funds to do for us. What they send, we get for nothing, and the comforts come right up into the front lines.”

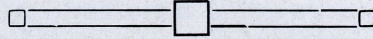
Private William Bridges :—

“ I would like to pay a tribute to the work of the A.C.F. They had a hut on the sector where I happened to be, and it did not matter at what hour of the day or night we happened to be coming from the line, there was always a hot cup of good cocoa or soup waiting for us, and I can assure you it was appreciated by us all.”

Driver P. H. Coutin, at Sea:—

“ We all anticipated being on board for Xmas, but none had the slightest idea of receiving a Christmas Box, and it was not until they were distributed that we knew anything about them. Personally I was astounded at its contents, which, like myself everyone appreciated. In our position it was impossible for us to receive presents from our people at home, and had it not been for your gifts, Christmas would have been very quiet.”

Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.



Office Bearers and Committees

(PERIOD ENDED 1919).

Patroness :

LADY GOOLD ADAMS.

President :

LADY COWLEY.

Vice-Presidents :

LADY PHILP, Mesdames D. HAMILTON, J. STODART and
M. LIGHTOLLER.

Hon. Treasurer :

Mrs. W. S. ANDERSON.

Hon. Secretaries :

Misses M. DALRYMPLE, M. ROE, J. MARTIN, E. SYDNEY-JONES,
J. MACGREGOR, N. AHERN.

Hon. Auditor :

W. E. SAVAGE, ESQ., F.C.P.A.

Executive Committee :

The PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENTS, HON. TREASURER, HON.
SECRETARIES, Mesdames CULLEN, MACARTNEY,
PETERSON, WALSH and MISS ABERCROMBIE.

Purchasing Committee :

Mesdames LIGHTOLLER, FORSYTH and PETERSON.

Cutting-out Committee :

Miss ABERCROMBIE (Convenor), Mesdames O. COWLISHAW, JACKSON,
MACARTNEY, J. G. MCGREGOR, MACNAUGHTON, MCLAY,
PETERSON, WARREN and Miss GOERTZ.

General Committee :

Mesdames APLIN, ARCHDALL, BARNES, T. H. BROWN, NORWOOD-
BROWN, BANCROFT, BOYD, BURRELL, BUNDOCK, BOURNE,
WILLIAM COLLINS, CHARLTON, CARVOSSO, COWLISHAW,
W. CAMERON, V. CAMPBELL, CULLEN CROUCH, DOYLE,
DIBDEN, J. FORSYTH, J. FLOWER, FITZGERALD, FEGAN,
GILCHRIST, GROUT, F. H. HART, HAMILTON, HOWELL,
IRVING, C. F. V. JACKSON, JARDINE, LIGHTOLLER, J. G.
MCGREGOR, MACNAUGHTON, MCLAY, MACARTNEY, MAC-
TAGGART, MERSON, MILES, E. MUNRO, MOWBRAY,
MCDERMOTT, P. J. MCDERMOTT, F. NICHOLSON, NORTH,
J. P. PETERSON, J. J. POWER, SLADE, J. STODART, SOLO-
MON, C. TAIT, C. C. WARREN, A. D. WALSH, Misses
ABERCROMBIE, BRENNAN, WADE-BROWN, GOERTZ, FLOWER,
FARMER, HARDIE, S. IRVING, MACFARLANE, M. and H.
POWER, N. STODART, B. and J. STIRRAT,

Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.



THE Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund, which is a working sub-division of the Australian Comforts Fund, was inaugurated at a public meeting convened by the Mayoress of Brisbane on September 21, 1915, Lady Goold-Adams being elected patroness; president, Lady Cowley; hon. treasurer, Mrs. W. S. Anderson; hon. secretaries, Miss Dalrymple and Miss M. Roe.

Excellent premises were secured in Parbury House, Eagle Street, through the courtesy of Mr. W. E. W. T. Tremearne; sewing machines and the necessary articles of furniture were lent; purchasing, cutting-out, and room committees were formed, and within a fortnight of moving into the rooms, 22 cases of goods had been packed and sent away.

MANAGEMENT.

Committee meetings and executive meetings were held every month, and special executive meetings were called when it was necessary to make an important decision quickly.

The rooms were open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on ordinary week days, and from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, with one of the secretaries on duty every day, and a member of the Committee to receive, distribute, and supervise the work of the sewing room.

WORK.

The work in the rooms was mainly the cutting-out and making of flannel and cotton shirts, waistcoats, Balaclavas, mufflers, and mittens of blanket, fly-veils, underpants, antiseptic shirts, handkerchiefs, and kit bags. Flannel was purchased at first from the Ordnance Stores, but during the last year the Committee were notified that they could not be supplied again until further notice, and

Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

they experienced much difficulty in obtaining suitable material, while wool for the socks became so scarce that it was imported from England by the A.C.F. in large quantities and sold to the different branches. All work sent in was inspected and altered if necessary, and shirts and large quantities of wool were taken by workers to be made up at home. When finished, all garments, whether made in the rooms or received as gifts, were marked with the badge of the fund and sorted ready for packing—the important work of censoring and altering socks being in the hands of a special band of workers. At different times, large sacks of unclaimed soldiers' parcels were sent to the fund, by order of the military authorities, and these were all opened, the contents sorted, the socks washed, and everything that was fit for use was sent off again to the soldiers. To give an idea of the magnitude of the work, 5010 cases, including 17,324 shirts and 37,983 pairs of socks, have been sent off since October, 1915, by the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund and branches.

PACKING.

The Queensland Patriotic Comforts Fund, whose kindness throughout cannot be over-estimated, provided all the cases and also the services of a professional packer—the cases when ready being taken to the Queensland Patriotic Fund Depot, where they were properly bound with hoop-iron, stencilled, and shipped on board the first transport available.

In addition to all kinds of supplementary clothing, foodstuffs, and tobacco, etc., games, amusements, musical instruments, and large quantities of books and magazines were supplied, and substantial sums of money, totalling £7103, were cabled to London and Egypt (free of exchange) from time to time to be spent on gramophones, cinematographs, Tommy cookers, or for the support of the coffee stalls. Lists of requirements were sent each month from the A.C.F. Headquarters, and this was a very valuable help, as workers could be sure that their gifts were actually what were needed by the men. The total value of the goods sent away by the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund was £29,830.

Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

BRANCHES.

Branches were formed all over Queensland, giving regular support and responding generously to any appeals that were made. Many deserve special mention for the wonderful way in which they kept up their supply of gifts, and all did most excellent work for the A.C.F., for it would have been quite impossible for the Commissioners of the A.C.F. to attempt their extensive operations if they had not felt that they could depend on the whole of Australia to support them. Some branches worked quite independently, raising their own funds and sending in their own contributions; others purchased their materials through the Q.S.C. Fund; and others received wool and cut out garments to be made up, and sent in what subscriptions they could collect.

EXPENSES.

The actual running expenses of the fund were very small, being only $\frac{3}{4}\%$ per cent., or 15/10 per £100 of the money received, as all services were voluntary. The Press printed weekly reports and other notices free of charge, no freight was paid on Comforts Fund goods on the transports, the coastal ships, or the Government railways, and Bryce Ltd. carried all parcels to and from the railway, at first free, and afterwards for half rates. After the cases of goods left the rooms, the Queensland Patriotic Fund assumed all responsibility, insured the consignments, cabled information, and in every way rendered invaluable assistance in making the work of the fund simple and economical. The only expenses, apart from the actual purchase of materials were postage, telephone, stationery, and half rates for cartage. Necessities for the rooms were purchased out of the profit made on a small charge for tea at lunch and 4 o'clock.

RAISING FUNDS.

There have been several regular sources of income which have added substantially to the welfare of the fund:—

Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

- (a) **The Coo-ee Cafe:** A very successful tea room, run entirely by voluntary workers, sent in about 40 per cent. of its profits, averaging over £100 per month in the last year.
- (b) **The Jam Shop,** opened by Mrs. Lockhart Gibson, provided the fund with £25 per month by the sale of jams, jellies, chutneys, etc.
- (c) **The War-time Kitchen** in Southport, under the supervision of Mrs. D. C. K. Cameron, forwarded 75 per cent. of its profits, averaging over £40 a month.
- (d) **The Circulating Library,** of 1200 books, almost all of them donated, brought in £144/1/- in less than two years, with a charge of 3d. per volume.
- (e) **Sale of Newspapers:** The collecting and sale of clean daily newspapers realised nearly £10 per month.
- (f) **The Flag Roll:** The names of soldiers and sailors on active service and of war workers at home, were registered for the charge of 1/-, bringing in £43/13/11.
- (g) **Collecting Boxes:** Permission was kindly given for collecting boxes to be placed in banks and warehouses, realising £178/11/9.

In addition to these regular sources of income, numerous fetes, concerts, lectures, teas, etc., have been organised from time to time, the most important being a joint public appeal made each year by the Combined Comforts Funds, the proceeds being divided proportionately. The Q.S.C.F., working for the benefit of all the troops, received £7062/9/1.

Also a very successful refreshment stall has been run at the Exhibition Grounds, during the Show weeks of 1917 and 1918, bringing in £301/13/3 and £640 respectively.

Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

The total amount of money received by the hon. treasurer from September 27, 1915, to June 30, 1919, was £23,133/5/10, and the total expenditure amounted to £23,076/12/-, leaving a balance of £56/13/10, which with the interest in the Government Savings Bank, total-ling £36/11/5, has been handed over to the Queensland Patriotic Fund for the use of returning soldiers.

In conclusion, we append a list of the branches and work parties, which have helped so materially to ensure the prosperity of the fund.

Mare Cowley
President.

Madge Roe,
Hon. Secretary.

Helen A. Angerson
Hon. Treasurer.

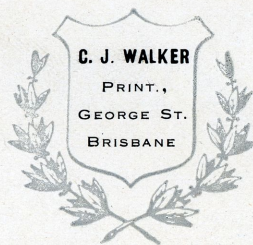


List of Country Branches.

Branch.	Secretary.	Branch.	Secretary.
Airdmillan or Ayr	...	Mapleton	Mrs. F. E. Watt
Beaudesert	...	Maroochy River	Miss E. A. Barber.
Beerwah	...	Marroon	Mrs. Murray Prior.
Benaraby	...	Memerambi	Mrs. S. Warrlian.
Bowen...	...	Mitchell	Mrs. Deshon.
Bundaberg	...	Morven	Mrs. Band.
Cabootture	...	Mt. Morgan	Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Halberstater
Calliope Valley	...	Nambour	Miss C. Meredith.
Charters Towers	...	Nanango	Miss Pearl Lee.
Degilbo	...	Orniston	Miss Gloster.
Emu Creek	...	Poona	Miss E. E. Edwards.
Eumundi	...	Pialba	Miss Campbell.
Goomandi	...	Sandgate	Mrs. F. Hayes.
Ipswich	...	Tallebudgera and District..	Mrs. M. Dwyer.
Isis Girls' Club	...	Townsville	Miss J. Bernays
Kedron	...	Tiaro ...	Mrs. E. A. Clark.
Laidley	...	Toogoolawah	Mrs. Roy Butler.
Lake Clarendon	...	Warra	Mrs. C. E. Symes.
Longreach	...	Wattle Branch	Miss L. H. Stirrat.
Many Peaks	...	Wynnum	Miss Monteith.

Work Parties.

Brisbane Women's Club.	Mrs. Nutting (Kureelpa).
B.G.G. School	Mrs. Gawler Pegler.
Bundaberg Girls' Patriotic Club.	Q. M. Export Co.
Mrs. Baker.	Q. W. Electoral League.
Mrs. Geoffrey Barton.	Mrs. Saltmarsh.
Mrs. Bundoek.	Miss May Smith (Woombye.)
Mrs. Burgoyne.	Mrs. Skene (Montville).
City Tabernacle.	Strathpine State School.
Clairmont Knitting Circle.	Toorbul.
Miss Eunice Clark.	Y.W.C.A.
Miss Davenport.	Wolston.
Mrs. Davison.	
Mesdames Donaldson and Patterson's Knitting Circle.	Kilkivan.
Gatton.	Laidley Girls' Patriotic Club.
Mrs. Gawn.	Mrs. J. P. Lawless.
Gin Gin Girls' Patriotic Club.	Leichhardt St. Girls' Club.
Mrs. Fanshaw Gostling.	Mrs. Lloyd.
Hamilton Girls' Club.	Mrs. Ned McConnell.
Jandowae Ladies.	Mrs. Eric McConnell.
Jandowae Patriotic Sports Club.	Miss Mountford.
Mrs. S. A. King.	Mondure North State School
Mrs. Kenman (Lacey's Creek).	Mrs. F. V. Nicholson, Senr.
	Naranga Patriotic League.



REPORT
OF THE
WORK DONE
BY THE
Queensland Soldiers'
Comforts Funds,
1915-1919.



Brisbane :
C. J. WALKER, Print., 129 George Street,
1919.





15th BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.



President:

MISS MCSHARRY

(Resigned October, 1917, and succeeded by Mrs. F. CRAIG).

Hon Secretary:

MRS. J. K. CANNAN.

Hon. Treasurers:

MISS NICHOLSON AND MISS BROWNE.

Committee:

MESDAMES F. CRAIG, LEWIS, PARSONS, MANDELL, MCARTHUR.
HAWKINS, ARMSTRONG, GAYFORD, MISSES BROWNE, E.
MCSHARRY, K. CANNAN, NICHOLSON, GOODE, JONES, BOARD
AND SCOTT.



HIS Committee was formed at a meeting held in the Civil Service Board Room on 6th September, 1916, and convened by the relatives of Brigadier-General J. H. Cannan, at that time Colonel of the Battalion. Its objects

were—

- (1) To collect or raise a sufficient sum to be cabled to the O.C. for 1916 Christmas Cheer for the men of the 15th; and
- (2) Then to continue their activities on similar lines to provide them with as many comforts as possible.

Special attention was paid to the knitting of socks, of which large numbers have been sent over. During the greater part of its existence this Committee had the free use of a fine room as a depot in the Kodak Building, for which it was most grateful.

In October, 1917, owing to ill-health, Miss McSharry had to resign the position of president, and Mrs. Craig took her place.

This Committee has worked together with few changes for two and a half years, and during that time worked in various ways. On two occasions Miss Katie Cannan donated the proceeds of her breaking-up ball to the fund; a large stall was run by the Committee at the Exhibition (1917) with very good results; numerous raffles were held; three times the fund shared in street collections for comforts; a large fete was held at Clayfield in June, 1918; and during the whole time a steady stream of subscriptions helped to increase the fund, which at time of closing stood at £922/4/-, being the total of money collected by this Committee for the 15th Battalion.

The principal disbursements were—

TO O.C. OF 15TH:—

December 1st, 1916, £70; April 20th, 1917, £100; August 24th, 1917, £100; November 7th, 1917, £100; February 25th, 1919, £100.

FOR WOOL:—£66 9s. 9d.

In addition about £218 was spent in the purchase of tinned comforts which were despatched through "The Queensland Soldiers' Comforts' Fund.

The Queensland Patriotic Fund also assisted greatly by allowing money to be sent through their agents free of charge. Goods sent away included tinned milk and milk and cocoa and coffee, cigarettes, tobacco, tinned fruit, fish, butter, dripping, sweets, sugar, tea, chewing gum, socks, and handkerchiefs.

The fund closed on 13th March and surplus wool and socks were sent to the Red Cross. About £90 cash in hand, to be held pending further arrangements.

Bert E. Craig

President

Lillian Cannan

Hon. Secretary.

C. Browne

Hon. Treasurer.



IMPERIAL CAMEL CORPS COMFORTS' FUND.

Patroness:

MRS. NOBBS.

President:

LT.-COL. MOORE.

Hon. Treasurer:

MRS. H. B. BURSLEM.

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. H. T. SMILES.

Committee:

MESDAMES J. BRENNAN, THOMSON, GNATZ, CRAMB, MARSHALL,
DUNCAN, HARMAN, MISS LAMBERT.



THE first meeting of the Imperial Camel Corps Comforts Fund was held at the Town Hall on 13th June, 1918. The Mayoress (Mrs. McMaster) occupied the chair. Between 30 and 40 persons attended the meeting, many becoming members of the fund, and a strong Committee was formed. Several handsome donations were received from friends and admirers of the boys in the Imperial Camel Corps. Our first effort to raise funds took the form of a Smokers' Requisites Stall at the Exhibition, which proved most successful. In the same month we held a musical afternoon in the Pianola Rooms, kindly lent by the manager, also with very satisfactory financial results. We were most fortunate at having placed at our disposal by Mr. H. B. Burslem, the manager of Lysaghts Ltd., his fine roomy offices in Ann Street. There we had our headquarters, where we attended to our correspondence, received and packed our goods, and met two days in each week to sew, the Singer Sewing Machine Company kindly lending us a machine. Many pairs of beautifully knitted socks were brought in by our small but energetic

knitting committee. Our monthly meetings were held at Adelaide House, the residence of the patroness. During nine months we raised £205/3/8. Of this we spent £121/19/8 on wool, material, and foodstuffs, which were sent to our troops in Palestine. After attending a meeting of the Combined Comforts Fund, where we were informed that comforts would no longer be needed, our Committee met and decided to hand the balance—£83/4/—to the General Fund to be cabled to Egypt, to buy comforts for the boys on returning troopships. As a wind-up of the fund we held an afternoon at Messrs. Lysaght's office on Thursday, 27th March. Opportunity was taken to thank Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Burslem for the splendid manner in which they had assisted the fund. Mrs. Nobbs, on behalf of the members, presented Mrs. Burslem with a silver photo frame, suitably inscribed. Mrs. Burslem feelingly responded, and thanked those who had so loyally assisted to make the Imperial Camel Corps Comforts Fund a success.

R. A. Murrell

President.

Hilda M. Smiles

Hon. Secretary.

Lucie Burslem

Hon. Treasurer.



“C” Coy.
**3rd PIONEERS BATTALION COMFORTS’
FUND.**



HIS fund was inaugurated about a month before our men left Melbourne for England (June, 1916). Although only a very small band of workers we worked hard and sent during the two and a half years our men were on active service 75 cases of knitted garments and food to the value of £441/2/8, and cabled £105. Amongst the knitted garments were 842 pairs socks and 139 pairs mittens, 352 shirts, 61 Balaclavas, and many knee and skull caps. We also sent a consignment of tobacco (256 tins). Our officers are:—President, Mrs. H. P. Phillips; vice-presidents, Mrs. C. A. N. Loftus and Mrs. W. Brown; hon. treasurer, Mrs. W. O. Hambly; hon. secretary, Mrs. Percy C. Sapsford; committee and workers, Mesdames H. Cameron (first secretary), G. G. Muller, R. T. Jefferies, W. Scott, E. A. Robinson, E. L. Rees, J. Muir, M. Bloom, R. A. Mann, Gregor, Holman, Carmichael, Heritage, R. Christie, J. Aird, P. Frankel, W. Ward, T. W. Sykes, K. Cormack, M. Bettenay, N. O'Brien, Nugent, E. Rayment, Bonham, Misses K. Watt (first treasurer), P. Leetch, D. Brown, D. Fielding, M. Christmas, M. Hethorn, Thompson, Body, Baltzer.

Edith Phillips President.
Edith J. Hambly Hon. Treasurer.
Army. A. Sapsford Hon. Secretary.

❖ THE COO-EE CAFE. ❖



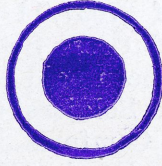
NE of the war activities that must be marked with the word "successful" was the Coo-ee Cafe (situated in the Brisbane Club Building), the work of which directly benefited fighting men at the front. The plan originated in November, 1916, after the success that attended a small refreshment cafe for workers on Button Day. As a result of the conversation between Mrs. L. M. Bond and some other capable women, who had already managed successful war work, the idea crystallised, and a strong committee of management was formed, with Mrs. L. M. Bond as secretary, Mesdames Frank Little, W. N. Robertson, L. Wilson, and Cullen, and Mr. W. T. Robertson chairman. The new premises for the Brisbane Club was completed, and the club committee was approached for the use of the basement. It was decided that the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund should benefit to the extent of 10 per cent. of the profits, the units sharing equally, including the 9th and 49th Battalions, and the 9th Field Artillery Brigade. The managers of the different departments of work were placed as follows:—Mesdames L. M. Bond and Frank Little, managers of the cafe; Mrs. Lachlan Wilson, business manager; Mesdames, W. N. Robertson, Cullen, and Wilson, kitchen managers. In the second year Mrs. Massey succeeded Mrs. Frank Little as one of the managers. An advisory committee of seven, with Mrs. W. N. Robertson as chairwoman, and Mesdames Massey, C. Elliott, A. B. Carvosso, Wilson, Cullen, and L. M. Bond (hon. secretary) also gave of their best in the service of the soldiers during the whole time the cafe was in operation, from February 6, 1917, to November 23, 1918. The official report of the hon. auditors (Chas. A. Clarke and Son) gave the following figures:—The total revenue of the Coo-ee Cafe amounted to £19,242/8/5. The expenditure for the period, after deducting the proceeds of sale of plant and furnishings, amounted to £11,604/-

17/1, leaving a profit of £7637/11/4. Of this sum there was donated to the Red Cross Society £70, and the remaining £7567/11/4 has been paid to the undernoted comforts funds:—Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund, £753/15/7; 5th Light Horse Comforts Fund, £2271/5/3; 9th Field Artillery Comforts Fund, £2271/5/2; 9th and 49th Battalions Comforts Fund, £2271/5/4; total, £7567/11/4. A refund has also been made to each of the preliminary deposit of £5. The above profits were paid to the several funds in monthly amounts as profits were determined. All takings were banked daily, and the records were kept systematically and accurately.

An army of volunteer workers were accepted for service, and faithfully observed the business rules considered necessary for the proper conduct of the project. In an incredibly brief time the unattractive basement was transformed into a commodious, well arranged, well kept cafe, where courteous attendants and home-made dainties soon brought success to the management. Since then the first floor of the Brisbane Club was the scene of operations, and there never was one break in the wonderful success of the project until the armistice was signed, and the work for the fighting men at the front planned by the promoters was completed.

An important visiting member of the Commonwealth Recruiting Committee said during a visit to Brisbane: "There should be a Coo-ee Cafe in every town in the Southern States." But the greatest appreciation for past work came from the men who benefited by the money cabled to procure comforts for them. The Coo-ee Cafe meant a combination of clever heads, kind hearts, willing hands, and untiring feet in the service of Queensland soldiers, and their best valedictory was their success in providing comforts for the soldiers of the Empire.

17-3, Robertson
E. J. Plannabord Chairman.
Hon. Secretary.



4th PIONEERS COMFORTS' FUND.



ON the 13th April, 1917, Mesdames Bradshaw, Charlton, and Misses Bird, Poolman, Tanner, and M. and Y. Garraway met in the Overseas Club with a view to forming a Comforts Fund for the 4th Pioneers. A room was secured in the basement of Preston House, and it was decided to immediately circularise all relatives of the men of the 10th of the 4th Pioneers (then in camp at Enoggera) asking for donations to commence the fund, and calling a meeting on the 17th April. This was done, and resulted in a large meeting. Officers were elected as under:—

President :

MRS. BRADSHAW.

Vice-Presidents :

MRS. CHARLTON, CRAIG AND HALLIDAY.

Treasurer :

MISS POOLMAN.

Secretary :

MISS M. GARRAWAY.

Members :

MESDAMES RICHARDSON, GARRAWAY, AMOS, KNIGHT, WHITE, GIBSON, MIRFIN, MOUNTAIN, TATE. WARD, HARDGRAVE, HALL, BOWLER, HATTON, SCOWEN, HEATH, MALLIN, KYLE, MACKENZIE, OTTERSPoor, MISSES BIRD, MACDONNEL, TANNER, NORMAN, MIRFIN and Y. GARRAWAY.

Donations were sent in in the first month to the amount of £18, and promises of four benefit evenings. During the five months (April to September, 1917) the

money received was approximately as under:—

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Monthly Subscriptions ...	5	0	0	Wool Purchases ...	20	0	0
Donations ...	23	0	0	Tinned Goods, etc. ...	128	0	0
Raffles ...	3	0	0	Sundries ...	4	0	0
Paddington Pictures ...	27	17	0	Balance in Bank ...	18	17	0
"Sunbeams" ...	24	0	0				
Mr. McMinn's Concert ...	55	0	0				
Toowoomba Concert ...	18	0	0				
"Sunbeams" (2nd Concert) ...	15	0	0				
	£170	17	0		£170	17	0

On the 1st June, Mrs. Bradshaw resigned from the position of president, and the treasurer (Miss Poolman) also resigned. Mrs. Cottam and Miss Macdonnell were elected in their places respectively. In June we despatched 200 pairs socks, 98 shirts, 40 mits, 12 mufflers, and 12 cases tinned goods and tobacco. In August we sent 5 cases, comprising approximately 40 shirts, 60 pairs socks, 13 pairs mits, biscuits, and puddings, tobacco and various other articles. August, 1917, to March, 1918: Mrs. Cottam resigned, and Mrs. Alan Leeds was elected president. Miss Macdonnell also resigned to be married, and Mrs. Ludlow was made treasurer. The membership was—

MESDAMES ALAN LEEDS, CAMPBELL, BOWLER, LUDLOW, HATTON, BOWLES, HALL, PERSHOUSE, CORNWALL, WAEELER. TATE-KNIGHT, ARMSTRONG, WARD, O'BRIEN, SIMMS, WYMOND, KENNEDY, BOUGHAN, MACARTHUR, MAPP, FELIX HENDER, SON; MISSES HENDERSON, CAMPBELL. EASTERBY, BIRD, MACDONNELL, BOWLES. MEYERS, THOMLINSON, FELIX, MACDOWALL and M. GARRAWAY.

President :	Vice-President :
MRS. ALAN LEEDS.	MRS. CAMPBELL.
Treasurer :	Secretary :
MRS. LUDLOW.	MISS M. GARRAWAY.

Accounts for this period were approximately:—

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank ...	18	0	0	Wool and Flannel ...	27	0	0
Subscriptions ...	6	0	0	Sundries ...	5	0	0
Donations ...	9	0	0	Cabled to O.C. ...	80	0	0
Raffles ...	5	0	0	Balance in Bank ...	26	0	0
Stall at Camp ...	4	0	0				
Mascot Day ...	96	0	0				
	£138	0	0		£138	0	0

As shipping space was so difficult to procure about this time, it was considered best to ship small quantities of goods, and cable what money we could spare instead. Five cases only were sent to the 4th Pioneers during this six months—38 shirts, 40 pairs socks, 14 pairs mittens, 5 caps, 7 mufflers, and tinned goods. The sum of £80 was cabled in February to the O.C., and this six months ended with a credit balance in the bank of £23/14/8.

March, 1918, to January, 1919.—The membership and officers were the same as for the last period. In March the club moved from Preston House to a room in the A.M.L. and F. Buildings, Creek Street, kindly lent by Mr. Devereux, through Mrs. Leeds. For this period we sent 27 cases of comforts to the battalion, comprising over 200 parcels, each valued at 11/-. We cabled three lots of money to the O.C. to be spent on comforts, and cabled two lots of money to the Overseas Tobacco Fund for tobacco. Our club conducted a stall in Queen Street for Comforts Day, and cleared over £56, and our share of the distribution was £169/13/-.

Accounts worked out at approximately:—

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank ...	53	11	0	Tinned Goods, etc. ...	35	0	0
Subscriptions ...	9	0	0	Wool ...	10	0	0
Donations (inc. pricks)...	22	0	0	Cases and Sundries ...	14	0	0
Raffles ...	0	13	0	Insurance on Cases ...	10	0	0
Mascot Day (balance) ...	26	3	0	Cabled to O.C.—			
General Comforts Day..	169	13	0	April 24 ...	£20	0	0
				Dec. 19 ...	100	0	0
				Feb. 20 ...	53	0	0
					173	0	0
				Overseas Tobacco ...	30	0	0
				Don. to Central C.F. ...	9	0	0
	£281	0	0		£281	0	0

At the winding up of the club we handed over the balance of the cases (six new ones) to the Sailors' Institute. We handed the remainder of the goods from the stall to the Jack's Day Committee for Jack's Day. All socks and woollens were handed in to the Soldier Sock Fund, and it was decided that all goods received after winding up the club would also be sent to the Sock Fund.

Letters were written thanking various people for their assistance during the existence of the club, including Mr. Devereux, who was instrumental in lending us the room, free of rent, and Mr. B. F. Caniffe, who on three occasions gratuitously audited the books.

Kathleen J. C. Leeds

President.

Maude M. Garraway

Hon. Secretary.

M. Ludlow

Hon. Treasurer.





Record of Work Done by the Committee of the 2nd Light Horse Regt. Comforts' Fund.

AUGUST 17TH. 1916—1919.

210



IN response to an advertisement a number of ladies met on August 17, 1916, in Miss Bourne's rooms, Adelaide Street, to form a committee "to receive, pack, and despatch private parcels for individual members of the 2nd Light Horse Regiment." Mrs. J. S. P. Bourne was elected president, Mrs. Challinor treasurer, and Miss Bourne secretary. The committee comprised Mesdames Jennings, Douglas, Crichton, Davies, Fortescue, and the Misses Macfarlane and Baker. Subsequently Mrs. Challinor undertook the secretaryship, and Mrs. Jennings acted as treasurer, and Mesdames Anning, P. A. Blundell, and C. McLay, with Miss Stodart, joined the committee.

It was decided to receive parcels at intervals of three months—in October (to be in time for Christmas), January, April, and July; and 1200 circulars to this effect were posted to the next of kin of the members of the Regiment and reinforcements.

In the first year the response was gratifying, but as the majority of the men came from the country, and their people were far from shops, or even railway stations, it became customary to send money to the Committee, asking that the materials for the parcels should be bought and packed locally. Until the difficulty of transport became acute some hundreds of parcels were so sent, also cases of milk, fish, limejuice, tinned pineapple, sweets, biscuits, smokes, socks, etc.

To augment the fund Mrs. Challinor and other members of the Committee made and sold jams, made and raffled cakes, chairs, and other useful articles. Garden

fetes were also held by Mrs. Bourne, and by Mesdames P. A. Blundell and C. McLay. For three years the Committee assisted at the annual effort of the Queensland Soldiers Comforts Fund, and received a share of the proceeds from "Button," "Mascot," and "Comforts" Days.

Since the authorities decided that no more private parcels could be carried on transports, the Committee has cabled sums of money, aggregating £345, to the Officer Commanding the Regiment for comforts for the men, and has received grateful acknowledgments for each remittance.

On two occasions a large number of pairs of socks, sand shoes, singlets, calico hats, and dungaree jumpers were provided by the Committee for use on the voyage, as it was considered that as soon as he embarked, a man was on active service. The Officers Commanding the reinforcements also pointed out the necessity for cool clothing to keep the men fit and well on the voyage through the Red Sea during the hot season.

In June of last year the Committee of the 5th Light Horse Comforts Fund suggested an amalgamation of the 2nd, 5th, and 11th Light Horse Comforts Funds, an arrangement which has proved most advantageous to this fund, and the generous act was much appreciated by the Committee.

A sum of about £50 is still in hand, but the accounts cannot yet be finally closed, as further small sums are expected to be received.

All surplus stores were given to the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

Signed on behalf of the Committee—

Jane G. Bourne

President.

Caroline Challinor

Hon. Secretary.

C. L. Jennings

Hon. Treasurer.



9th F.A. COMFORTS' FUND.



HIS fund was started in a room kindly lent to us, in the Courier Building on June 21, 1916, in response to a meeting called by Mrs. O'Mahoney for the inauguration of a Comforts Fund for the men of the 9th F.A. Brigade. The office-bearers elected were:—

President.

MRS. O. MAHONEY.

Vice-Presidents:

MRS. CAIRNS, MISS WODEHOUSE.

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. J. BRADFIELD.

Hon. Treasurer:

MRS. WEBB.

The work was carried on under these officers until the end of 1916, when for health reasons they were compelled to resign, their places being filled by Mrs. Elliott, president; Mrs. Cullen, secretary; Mrs. Wyeth, treasurer.

In January, 1917, we were invited to join in the Coo-ee Comforts Cafe, taking full charge in the kitchen on Tuesdays and Fridays.

In October, 1917, we changed our name to Queensland Artillery Comforts Fund, and decided to give our profits (less £10) per month to the Q.S.C. Fund. The reason for this change being the disbandment of the 9th Field Artillery Brigade for reinforcements.

In the two years and four months our takings in donations, subscriptions, and money received from share in the cafe amounted to £2741/0/5, out of which amount £200 was sent to Colonel O'Mahoney for comforts, £800 to Colonel Hughes, and handed by him to the Australian Comforts Fund in London.

The Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund received £1292/10/3, and the balance was spent in parcels posted direct to our boys.

In winding up our fund we gave the Q.S.C. Fund on December 5, 1918, our reserve stock of tobacco, cigarettes, sugar, potted meats, and soap. We also gave the General Socks Fund on the same date 102 pairs of socks, 3 caps, 1 cholera belt, and 8lbs. of wool.

The sock, wool, and parcel book so ably kept by Mrs. Cairns shows:—

1006 pairs of Socks, 3 Cuffs, 10 Scarves, 36 Mittens, 41 Balaclava Caps, 54 Skull Caps.

These were knitted by members, and in addition we had donated—

94 pairs Socks, 4 pairs Cuffs, 2 Balaclava Caps, 2 pairs Gloves, 1 Blanket-Coat, 35 packets Cigarettes, 2 Tooth Brushes, 1 Pipe., 42 Mittens, 2 Knee Caps, 5 Scarves, 2 Cholera Belts, 10 Handkerchiefs, 14 Tooth Paste, 3 Pads and 2 packets of Envelopes, 1 tin Tobacco,

Goods despatched:—604 parcels (posted), 12 large battery parcels, 5 cases (mixed woollen goods), 165 Christmas cakes made by members in the Coo-ee Cafe after working hours, and posted for Christmas.

Having a credit balance in March, 1919, at the final meeting it was decided to spend part of it in purchasing a cow and presenting same to Grangehill Convalescent Home, to be known as the Artillery cow.

Comforts Fund Workers.

President :

S. ELLIOTT.

Treasurer :

E. WYETH.

Secretary :

MARY M. CULLEN.

Members :

MESDAMES C. ELLIOTT, CULLEN, A. H. WYETH, J. CAIRNS, PHILP, LAURANCE, BRADFIELD, J. A. FRASER, MITCHELL, KELLY, YOUNG, STEWART, BLAIR, WINDROM, HILL, HUGALL, JAMES, WIGFUL, FAIRLEY, CONNELL, W. B. O'CONNELL, CAMERON, M. O'SULLIVAN, P. A. O'SULLIVAN, R. FRASER, NAYLOR, I. J. JUSTER, ARUNDELL, TYNAN, YEOWART, IMBER, RANKIN, DENHAM; MISSES J. KELLY, LEE, BENNETT, NAYLOR, WYETH AND DENHAM.

Subscribers :

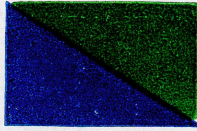
MESDAMES F. O'MAHONEY, WEBB, BRYANT, H. JAMES, WALKER,
HASLETT, SPIRES, BROWN, MCGREGOR, M. MCGREGOR,
LAIDLAW, GRIFFITH, FOGG, DOWN, RIGBY, NEWMAN, BIRD,
WARBURTON, PARKINSON, WANN, MUSGRAVE, FOXTON, C. A.
SMITH, MCDUGALL, MCCORMICK and J. O. FRITH ; MISSES
WODEHOUSE, BRYANT, HASLETT, DOT BRADFIELD, MUNCE,
SKELTON, WATSON, CARR BOYD and SUMMERS ; MR. D.
BRADFIELD.

S. Elliott President.

Mary W. Cullen Hon. Secretary.

Ellen Wyeth Hon. Treasurer





THE 11th LIGHT HORSE COMFORTS' FUND.



Patroness:

MRS. W. GRANT (Bowenville).

President:

MRS. P. J. BAILEY.

Hon. Treasurer.

MISS IVY POINTON.

Hon. Secretary;

MISS LILLAH MCLENNAN.

And the Working Committee included MESDAMES S. W. BARNETT, A. POINTON, E. J. LINDLEY, J. K. PATERSON, MANNING, STURGESE, C. OGG, T. W. CRAWFORD, MUIR, W. B. NUTTING, and MISSES POINTON (2), CRAWFORD (3), DALBY, YOUNG, MARLAY and NORMAN.



HIS fund was established in September, 1916, and during the two and a half years it was in existence donations to the amount of £336/10/8 were received. In June, 1917, a jam depot was established, towards which many donations of fruit, etc., were received, and the fund benefited to the amount of £382/4/7 by the sale of jams.

The sum of £425 has been cabled to the Regiment at intervals.

Several consignments of foodstuffs have been despatched, also parcels of shirts and socks have been posted periodically. These were all valued at £514.

The Committee assisted on Button Day, Mascot Day, and Comforts Fund Day, for which we received our share of money.

Several entertainments were catered for by the Committee, and realised £52/8/2.

On several occasions substantial donations were received from the 9th and 11th Light Horse Club (Adelaide), and from the Islington Girls' Club (Hamilton, New South Wales).

The principal jam makers were Mrs. P. J. Bailey, Mrs. S. W. Barnett, Mrs. Pointon, Miss Pointon, and Miss Crawford, and many others who prepared the fruit and labelled bottles.

Annie S. Bailey.
President.

Joy Poulton
Hon. Treasurer.

Hilliah McKenna
Hon. Secretary





Resume of Work of the 5th Light Horse Comforts' Fund Committee.



1915.



MEETING of ladies interested in the 5th Light Horse Regiment was held at the Women's Club, Edward Street, on September 24, 1915, when a committee was formed with the object of providing comforts for the men of this unit. Mrs. Hubert Harris was elected president, Mrs. Espie Dods honorary secretary, and Miss Macansh honorary treasurer; committee, Mesdames Frank Little, Macansh, McNeil, T. G. Millar, Ridley, W. F. Taylor, Locke Wilson, and Miss Harris.

A circular was sent out to next of kin inviting their co-operation. Shirts, socks, etc., were soon in hand, material being purchased with money donated by the Committee and friends, and in less than a month, on October 21, 35 cases of warm clothing, foodstuffs, and tobacco, also private parcels, were despatched by transport. Clothing and parcels were packed at Mrs. Dods' house, Wickham Terrace. Mr. H. M. Robinson kindly arranged for shipment of tobacco and cigarettes out of bond. These were partly paid for by money collected by the Lutwyche and Albion Church of England Girls' Club. A further consignment of 14 cases was sent in December, containing mostly milk and chocolate. In November, £17 was cabled to the O.C. to buy trench stoves.

1916.

In February, 1916, Mrs. Dods resigned the secretaryship, and Mrs. Locke Wilson was appointed in her place. Mrs. Leeds, of Claverton, was elected to the committee, and sent in £35/11/-, collected in the Charleville district. Goods and parcels were also sent in from various parts of the country, and duly forwarded. On May 4, 1916, at a special meeting a suggestion was made by Mrs. Little and Mrs. Wilson, of augmenting the funds by the sale of home-made cakes. The secretary stated that a room in Hornsby's Buildings would be lent as a depot, and here the Committee started the venture, which proved an ever-increasing source of income to our fund, and eventually blossomed out into the Coo-ee Cafe. Mrs. Lockhart Gibson, Mrs. Sinclair, and Mrs. Andrew Scott were added to the Committee; Mrs. W. F. Taylor and Mrs. Macansh were elected vice-presidents; and Mrs. H. Love and Miss N. Macansh came on as representatives of the Kitcher Sub-Committee, Mr. Frank Little acting as treasurer of the latter.

Later we moved next door to Exton's, and here 530 plum cakes were made, and sent with sweets, tinned fruit, and tobacco to the Regiment for Christmas, 1916. During Exhibition week we opened a small tea room in connection with the cake shop. The Committee here wishes to acknowledge the splendid work of all the helpers in both cake shop and tea room. In December a proposal was made by Mrs. Little and Mrs. Bond to join with others in opening a large tea and luncheon room. This plan was agreed to, and Mrs. Little was empowered to act as our representative in the matter. Mrs. Locke Wilson also represented us on the Coo-ee Cafe Committee. We lent our recipes and plant, which included stoves, cooking utensils, etc., and which formed a nucleus to the furnishing of the new kitchen.

The agreement drawn up gave 10 per cent. of the profits to the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund, represented on the Committee by Mrs. L. M. Bond, the remainder being equally divided between the three other funds interested. The success of the cafe is well known; our fund alone benefited to the extent of £2276/5/3. In 1918, in view of the fact that the Queensland S.C.F. had

supplied the 5th L.H. Regiment with comforts, our Committee agreed to give 5 per cent. of their share of the profits of the Coo-ee Cafe to the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

During this year, owing to the difficulty of obtaining shipping space for goods, the Committee decided to cable money direct to the O.C. for comforts; 500 cotton shirts, socks, tobacco, etc., were posted; 560 Christmas packets were also posted in convenient parcels in 1917 and 1918.

1918.

In 1918 Mesdames Billington, D. Nelson, Pike, and Miss I. Sword came on the Committee. We continued to cable money, and to forward goods when possible. A proposal we made in June to share our Coo-ee Cafe receipts with the 2nd and 11th Light Horse funds led to the formation of "The Combined L.H. Comforts Fund," the basis of agreement being the equal division of all monies received by the three funds. Owing to the unexpected closing of the Coo-ee Cafe, however, the advantage of this arrangement was of short duration.

The sum of £230 was cabled to the Regiment for Christmas cheer, per the Queensland Patriotic Fund.

Total Receipts	...	...	...	£	s.	d.
				3001	4	7

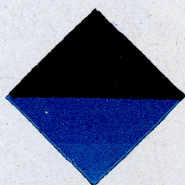
EXPENDITURE.

The total sums remitted to Regiment now						
amount to	...	...	...	2002	0	5
Value of Goods forwarded	...	...	...	508	4	10
Queensland Soldier's Comforts Funds	...	...	...	52	13	8
Coo-ee Cafe Deposit	...	...	...	5	0	0
Combined Comforts Funds Affiliation Fee	...	...	...	0	10	0
Working Expenses	...	...	...	19	9	3
Combined Light Horse Comforts Fund						
Division	...	...	...	287	6	7
At time of sending in this report Credit						
Balance in hand	...	...	...	125	19	10
				£3001	4	7

Lula M. Harris.
President.

Isabel Macauley
Hon. Treasurer

Isabel Taylor
Vice-President.



25th BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.

President :

MRS. A. A. SMITH.

Vice-President :

MRS. WINTEREORD,

Hon. Treasurer :

MISS C. EDWARDS.

Hon. Secretary :

MISS M. YOUNG.

MESDAMES BELL-BOOTH, DUNN and GRIERSON-BROWN.



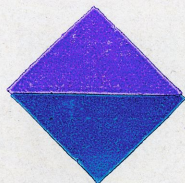
THE 25th Battalion Comforts Fund was organised in July, 1916, by Mrs. De Little in a room in the Courier Building (kindly lent by the management, per Mr. Briggs). On October 5 this room was let, and the work transferred to Australasia Chambers, Queen Street. Shortly afterwards the Committee reorganised with the above ladies as office-bearers.

Meetings were held monthly, but the room was open for workers and subscribers on Wednesdays and Fridays. During the existence of the fund £1120/14/2 was collected, £300 has been cabled, and the following articles sent to the men in the trenches:—

1079 pairs Socks, 1553 pairs Mittens, 3443 Handkerchiefs, 36 Balacalava Caps, Soap, Shaving Soap and Brushes, Sweets, Chewing Gum, Xmas Pudding, Boracic, 220 Antiseptic Shirts, 6 pairs Gloves, 17 Face Washers, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Pipes, Condensed Milk, Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, Writing Materials.

The funds now in hand amount to £167/18/6, and the Committee have yet to decide in what way it is to be disposed of.

Amy Smith.
Maud Young.
President
Hon. Secretary.



26th BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.



THE 26th Battalion Comforts Fund was formed in August, 1916. The officers and members comprised the following:—

President :

MRS. G. A. FERGUSON.

Hon. Secretary :

MRS. A. O. WOODS.

Assistant Hon. Secretary :

MRS. J. A. GIBSON.

Hon. Treasurer :

MRS. C. A. THELANDER.

Members :

MESDAMES A. T. HOCKINGS (Vice-President, buyer and convenor of stalls), J. WILKINSON (Vice-President), J. A. J. FERGUSON, P. CURRIE, F. M. O'DONNELL, P. E. S. COOPER, J. W. WARD, LAWSON and BOGIE (convenors, receiving and distributing depot), MCINTYRE, F. DAVIDSON, R. WESTACOTT, J. CORBETT, L. LOWE, F. W. MARTIN, C. A. HOBSON, WHITTAKER, HINCHFUSS, J. H. SIMMONDS, MCGRANT, CULPIN, R. EASLEY, BERESFORD, M. JONES, E. F. TRUNDLE, BEILBY, GRIERSON-BROWN, A. P. LLOYD (convenor of stalls), HIGHFIELD, J. STUCKEY, H. WRIGHT, KERR, A. C. WILSON, J. A. BROWNE, MISSES WILKINSON, CARTNER, E. CLEMENTS, RENTON, DAVIDSON, COCK, LEITCH and CHUTER.

Mesdames E. F. Trundle and P. Currie took over the duties of hon. secretary and hon. treasurer respectively, in January, 1918.

The funds with which the work was carried on were derived from donations, membership fees, annual combined comforts funds special public appeals, and special efforts organised by the Committee, the total revenue being £661/10/-, and tinned foodstuff to the value of £12 was received as a result of a "tin tea" effort.

Socks, mittens, Balaclava and small caps, knee caps, mufflers, vests, and handkerchiefs were knitted and made by the members from wool and material purchased by the fund. Foodstuffs were also purchased.

The following statement sets out the numbers and quantities of foodstuffs and comforts forwarded overseas to the 26th Battalion:—

920 pairs Sock, 71 Mufflers, 1,640 Handkerchiefs, 227 pairs Mittens, 88 Caps, 11 Kneecaps, 17 Vests, 364 lbs. Biscuits, 123 dozen tins Milk, 440 lbs. Cake, 234 doz. tins Fruits, 81 doz. tins Cocoa, 57 doz. tins Chesse, 60 doz. Cakes and 10 boxes Chocolate, 2 boxes Chewing Gum, 22½ lbs. Sweets, 543 tins and 7 lbs. Tobacco, 10 tins and 12 packets Cigarettes, 68 doz. Towels, 75 cakes Soap, 48 lbs. Loaf Sugar, 118 lbs. Ginger, 38 doz. tins Potted Meats, 44 doz. tins Plum Puddings.

The whole was contained in 225 cases shipped in 10 consignments and 17 parcels posted. Total estimated value, £639/1/6.

Included in the foregoing were private parcels and a consignment from Ayr and Delta Lodge, estimated value £30/6/-.

The fund has now in hand the sum of £101/13/8, the disbursement of which the Committee have not yet determined.

Macdonald D. Ferguson.
President.

L. Trundle.
Hon. Secretary.

H. Currie.
Hon. Treasurer.



THE 31st BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.



HIS fund was formed by some of the wives of the officers of the 31st Battalion on March 12, 1916, with the object of sending comforts to the officers and men abroad. Mrs. Toll was elected president, Mrs. Eckersley secretary, Mrs. Piers-Blundell treasurer, assisted by a committee of nine ladies. At first the meetings were held in private houses, but later the Board Room of the Civil Service Stores, Adelaide Street, was lent for fortnightly meetings.

The Committee and friends assisted in street collections on Button, Mascot, Hero, and Comforts Days, also organised entertainments for their fund, and packed and sent away cases of socks and comforts.

This work was carried on till February, 1919, when the fund closed, and handed £205/5/10 to the General Comforts Fund, it being no longer possible to send comforts abroad.

The fund forwarded to the Commanding Officers of the 31st Battalion:—

			£	s.	d.
18th August, 1916 ...	...	...	35	13	3
28th November, 1916 ...	...	...	100	8	3
7th February, 1917 ...	...	...	0	10	6
28th February, 1917 ...	...	...	116	0	0
28th November, 1917 ...	...	...	51	0	0
21st December, 1917 ...	...	...	101	0	0
13th March, 1918 ...	...	...	51	0	0
13th May, 1918 ...	...	...	100	16	6
			£556	8	6

Also a quantity of wool was purchased and made into socks and woollen comforts of all kinds. A quantity of tinned food was purchased and sent to the Battalion.

Maria L Loll

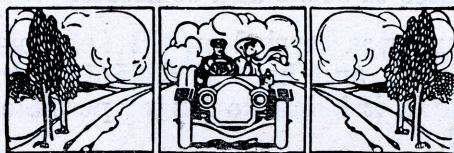
President.

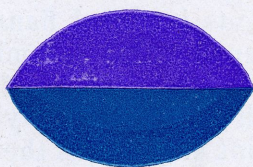
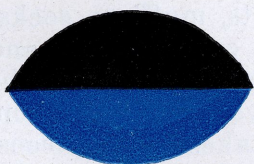
Mary Goggs

Hon. Secretary.

Isabel A. Piers-Blundell

Hon. Treasurer.





THE 41st and 42nd BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.

Patron :

T. W. WELSBY, M.L.A.

President :

MRS. W. H. AHLES.

Vice-President .

MRS. R. B. STARKE.

Hon. Members :

LIEUT.-COL. BOARD, MAJOR J. A. MILNES (killed in action),

CAPT. CRUICKSHANK, CAMERON.

Hon. Joint Secretaries :

MRS. M. J. BREWER, JUNR., MOLLY JAMIESON.

Hon. Treasurer :

CLARE WATTS.

Committee :

NELL WRENCH, LOUIE WATTS, EDNA MUNDELL, ALICE GILLIES,
CLARE WATTS.

Bankers :

THE COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LTD.



EARLY in July, 1916, the Brisbane Girls' Club organised the Comforts Fund for the 41st and 42nd Battalions. The amount of cash received to date totals £1178/2/3, the money being collected through the holding of fetes, concerts, and part proceeds of street collections, and also donations received from those interested in the respective battalions. Prior to the departure of the troops the Committee entertained the 41st and 42nd Battalions, at a farewell supper and concert at Bell and Thompson's Pad-dock, and presented each of the officers in command with a handsome Commonwealth flag with the colours of the fund embroidered. Up to the present cash and goods to the value of £950/10/- have been sent oversea. The ship-

ments included flannel and trench shirts, mufflers, socks, tinned coffee and milk, fruits, pudding, cakes, sweets, and fish. As a mark of appreciation for goods received, the 6th Field Company of Engineers forwarded to the hon. joint secretaries their flag, which was taken from Queensland to the sandy deserts of Egypt and then on to the trenches in France. Accompanying the flag was a scroll bearing the entire names of the company, many of whom now have crossed the Great Divide. In conclusion, we desire to tender our most grateful thanks to Mrs. L. MacDonnell, "Liscronia," Ipswich-road, South Brisbane; Mrs. A. G. Needham, New Farm; and Mrs. J. Jack, New Farm, for their willingness and generosity in being always ready to assist the fund; also to the many country contributors to our financial success; to Messrs. Cameron Bros., T. C. Beirne and Co., Ltd., Carricks Ltd., Laycock and Littledike, Banks Ltd., Fenwick and Co., the Press, and the many other persons too numerous to mention who have assisted.

(Mrs.) W. H. AHLES,

President.

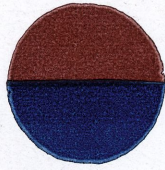
CLARE WATTS,

Hon. Treasurer.

(Mrs.) M. J. BREWER, Junr.,

MOLLY JAMIESON,

Joint Hon. Secs.



47th BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.



THE Comforts Fund for the 47th Battalion was formed on March 15, 1917, and the following Committee was elected:—President, Mrs. R. D. North; vice-presidents, Mrs. G. Carr-Boyd, Mrs. A. Leney, and Miss Hardie; treasurer, Mrs. Spiers; secretary, Miss Carr-Boyd; and executive committee, Misses Garraway and Cole (2). The membership of the fund rapidly increased to 87, and with their active co-operation the first shipment of comforts was despatched to the battalion early in June of the same year, and also a donation was made to the Overseas Tobacco Fund for tobacco to be supplied to the battalion. During the 19 months that the fund was in existence the total amount of comforts forwarded comprised: 9 11lb. parcels and 14 cases containing tinned goods, knitted articles, etc., including 501 pairs of socks; the sum of £235 (being £200 cabled direct to the O.C. of the battalion, and £35 to the Tobacco Fund for “smokes”) was also forwarded. Grateful acknowledgments were received from time to time from both officers and men, of the comforts. In May, 1918, the 47th Battalion was disbanded, and the majority of the men were drafted to the 45th, 46th, and 48th Battalions. It was decided to wind up the **Comforts Fund** for the 47th Battalion, and at a final meeting held in October it was decided to allocate the funds and goods on hand as follows:—£25 each to three battalions abovementioned, £50 to Prisoners of War Fund, the balance of money, which consisted of about £30, to the General Comforts Fund, socks on hand to the Sock Fund, and all tinned goods, etc., to the General Comforts Fund. By last mail appreciative letters were received from the Officers Commanding the 45th, 46th, and 48th Battalions expressing thanks for the donations of

£25 which had arrived safely in time for Christmas. The O.C. of the late 47th Battalion, Lieut.-Colonel Imlay, D.S.O., as a mark of appreciation for the work of the members of the fund, presented each member with a Battalion brooch. He had also forwarded a list of honours won by the men of the 47th, which comprised 149 decorations, including one V.C., and 14 mentioned in despatches.

B. S. Horth

President.

Annie Speers

Hon. Treasurer.

M. Carr Boyd

Hon. Secretary.



Resume of the Work of the Engineers and Miners Comforts' Fund.

APRIL 27TH, 1916—1919.



THREE years ago on April 27, 1916, at the residence of Mrs. A. J. Gibson, New Farm, the Engineers and Miners' Comforts Fund was formed. During the three years changes have occurred from time to time in the honorary secretary's position; but it so happens that the office-bearers to-day are as they were at the commencement—

President:

MRS. CECIL FOOTE.

Vice-President;

MRS. J. DOUGLAS HENRY.

Hon. Treasurer:

MRS. M. H. BRYDON.

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. RAY STANLEY.

Considering 28 months had already elapsed since the declaration of war, one is inclined to think that the Engineers' supporters in Queensland were slow to wake up; but the fact was that until they did wake up, the Engineers were in a decided minority, and it was very difficult to know just how and where they fitted in in our magnificent army. It was a letter from Mrs. J. C. Royal, hon. secretary of the N.S.W. Mining Corps, that gave us our first definite idea of forming a fund. She pointed out that dozens of the men for whom they provided comforts were Queenslanders, and suggested that we organise a fund and co-operate with hers. This suggestion was approved. Then and always she was most kind in supplying any information or suggestions re our fund.

In the beginning of things, when it was so difficult to get any idea of actual strengths of units, or which was in the most need of comforts, it was Mrs. A. J. Gibson who

braved the authorities and collected generally all useful information. Mrs. Gibson, who filled the position of hon. secretary from May, 1916, to September, 1916, and to whom so much was due, had, unfortunately, to leave Brisbane, as her husband, Professor A. J. Gibson, was summoned to England on important war work.

To make known our existence was the next move. The hon. secretary was instructed to write to all the leading newspapers of the State and ask that a little space be given for a notice, announcing the existence of a Comforts Fund for men of the Engineers, Pioneers, and Miners, and asking that all interested would communicate with the secretary. Letters were also sent to the many mines, engineering workshops and factories throughout Queensland. By kind permission of the Military authorities a complete list of the next-of-kin was given, and all these were communicated with. —No stone was left unturned for the Sappers and their comrades—the Pioneers and Miners.

Our first meetings were held at Mrs. Gibson's house, and later the following places were generously made available—the Y.M.C.A., Office of the Registration of Women for War Work, the Engineers' Drill Sheds, and finally our own room in the Town Hall. This latter office was kindly provided by the City Council, rent free, since the end of April, 1918, after an application by us for a reduction in the rent.

During May, 1916, we were given permission by the Railway authorities to send all parcels free by rail. We also received about this date our first donation from Mr. T. J. Hitchman, Sydney, of 100 towels and 108 pieces of soap; also in May we opened our banking account with £7/18/3 collected at our first meeting. Our bank book to-day shows receipts to the amount of £1034/9/8.

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Amount sent over-seas	804	17	5
Amount spent on Tobacco	31	8	0
Amount spent on Goods	16	5	0
Amount spent on Wool	44	15	0
Petty Cash and expenditure for preserves, rent, equipment and material	112	15	5
	1010	0	10
Balance in G.S.B.	24	8	10.
	£1034	9	8

The accounts have been audited half-yearly by Mr. W. E. Savage, F.C.P.A., and the Committee are indebted to Mr. Savage for his courteous and ever-ready help.

From time to time we have altered our methods of sending comforts. During our first year we sent 16 cases through the Queensland Patriotic Fund, as well as several gifts of money, which we cabled direct to commanding officers. Engineers' reinforcements were also during this period provided with books, music, and money for the purchase of comforts en route. Finally money was cabled to selected senior officers for distribution. This latter method was found to be the most satisfactory in reaching the men we were anxious to cheer. Contributions to the Overseas Tobacco Fund, Y.M.C.A., and Queensland Soldiers' Christmas Box Fund, were also means adopted of sending comforts to our boys.

We have participated in several public collections, Button Day and Mascot Day being the two most remunerative. In May, 1916, we held a bazaar at the residence of Mrs. Lightbody, and later a sale of work and bazaar at the Engineers' Drill Sheds. During May, 1917, we approached the Coo-ee Cafe management with reference to buying a share or renting some space in their kitchen to make jams and preserves. This arrangement was not workable, and at the suggestion of Mrs. Brydon we then established our own jam room in the Town Hall. This was a highly successful and remunerative venture. To Messrs. Allan and Stark we owe our deepest gratitude, as since first starting our jam room they have sold, free of any commission, practically all our jams, preserves, and pickles. Our first annual meeting was held on May 22, 1918, at the Engineers' Drill Sheds. It was largely attended, and many interested members of the engineering profession were present. On May 31, 1918, an illustrated lecture, "Australians and the War," was given by Major D. E. Evans, D.S.O., in the Lyceum Theatre, the entire proceeds (£45/17/11) helping to swell our funds. On Red Cross Day, July 25, 1918, our Committee, headed by our president, took its place beside other women war workers. On December 7, 1918, at the request of the Institute of Engineers and the Institute of Marine Engineers, the help of our Committee was sought in connection with an appeal and concert organised by them.

As a result £540 was realised; this sum, with £300 from our fund, was cabled to all engineering units in France for Christmas cheer. In December it was decided by the Committee to close our jam room, and the balance of the jam, valued at £27, was given to the Red Cross Kitchen as a Christmas gift. Our final meeting has not yet been called; but the balance of our money is to be given to the Queensland Soldiers' Comforts Fund. It would be difficult to mention all our good friends and helpers individually. From far-away Papua in the North, and the far West of Queensland, donations have come from the supporters. We are intensely proud of the officers and men for whom we have worked.

We conclude with a feeling of thankfulness for a peace we pray may be lasting, and thoughts of sympathy for those who are mourning for their honoured dead.

Isabel A. Foott

President

R. Victoria Stanley

Hon. Secretary.

M. H. Brydon

Hon. Treasurer.

QUEENSLAND SOLDIERS' SOCK FUND.



HE first meeting of the Soldiers' Sock Fund was convened by Lady Goold-Adams, at Government House, Brisbane, on Monday, April 19, 1915. A committee was formed, consisting of the following:—

President :

LADY GOOLD-ADAMS.

Vice-Presidents :

LADY COWLEY, MRS. P. REAL.

Hon. Treasurer :

MISS MAY PHILP.

Hon. Secretary :

MISS FANNY POWER.

Committee :

MESDAMES LEE, E. S. JACKSON, E. H. MACARTNEY,
JOHN FORREST and CUMBRAE STEWART.

Mr. W. J. Tunley, of the Queensland Evangelisation Society, offered the Missionary Depot, Albert Street, City, for the use of the fund. This offer was gladly accepted, and it may be mentioned that the Sock Fund remained at the Depot until the time of closing in 1919, Mrs. McNaught and her staff giving valuable assistance during that time.

From time to time the following members were elected to the Committee:—Mesdames T. H. Brown, J. F. Fitzgerald, O. Campbell, A. D. Walsh, A. A. Donaldson, Archdall, Virgil Power, Elkington, N. Shand, P. Hart, E. T. Real, and Alan Leeds; Misses Jessie Hood, Muriel Henderson, MacDougall, N. Skipper, Ivy Philp, and Nelly Ahern.

Wool was given out to anyone who applied, the condition being that the socks made from such wool be returned. The socks were packed in cases every fortnight and passed over to the Queensland Patriotic Fund, who stored them until space was found on the transports.

The first annual meeting was held on May 9, 1916. Sir Robert Philp presided. The report showed a very satisfactory year—19,181 pairs of socks having been sent away. There was an increase for the following year, and in 1917 a special appeal for 25,000 brought that year's total to 45,025. At the time of closing the number of socks sent overseas amounted to 104,594 pairs.

Branches were formed at Gympie (Mrs. Sym), Townsville (Misses Tait and Bernays), Bundaberg (Miss Payne), Mackay (Miss Lloyd and Miss Greenfield), Charleville (Mrs. Carter), Capella (Mrs. O'Brien), Isis and district (Mrs. Vivian Williams), Mitchell and district (Mrs. Deshon), Roma Sock Fund (Mrs. T. A. Spencer), Roma Knitting Circle (Mrs. Drane and Miss Benzie), Gayndah (Mrs. Townley), Wynnum Patriotic Sewing League (Mrs. McNaught), Atherton (Mrs. Moreton Taylor), Miss Mayne's Knitting Circle, Mesdames Donaldson and Patterson's Knitting Circle (Toowong). These branches worked with great enthusiasm, as also did the school children from all parts of Queensland, and their efforts showed splendid results. Special mention is due to the following local knitters:—Mesdames Mair, White, Morrison, Lyons, Misses Leitch and Davey.

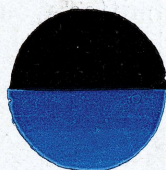
In November, 1916, Miss Power resigned her position of secretary, and her place was filled by Miss Muriel Henderson and Miss Nelly Ahern.

Since the commencement of the fund £4694/17/10 was collected, and at the time of closing the balance in the bank showed a credit of over £500. It was decided to hold over this money until the final meeting to be held soon after peace was signed.

Eric Gould Adams
President.

Muriel J. Henderson
Nelly Ahern } Joint Hon. Secretaries.

J. In. Philp
Hon. Treasurer.



9th and 49th BATTALION COMFORTS' FUND.



ATE in 1916, Mrs. Cam Robertson, wife of the Colonel of the 9th Battalion, inaugurated a fund in Toowoomba to send Christmas Cheer to her husband's battalion. At the same time she invited friends of the boys of the 9th Battalion in Brisbane to help. On November 2, 1916, a meeting was called in Brisbane and a Committee formed, with Mrs. Cam Robertson president, Miss E. Haymen secretary, and Mrs. W. Collin treasurer, and the 9th Battalion Comforts Fund was established. Owing to Mrs. Cam Robertson's unfortunate illness, Mrs. W. N. Robertson (vice-president) practically took over her duties. At this time about £300 was collected—£200 in Toowoomba and £100 in Brisbane, and sent over to provide Christmas cheer for the boys.

In December half the 9th was transferred to the 49th, so it was decided to bring the 49th within the scope of the fund, which was finally known as the 9th and 49th Battalion Comforts Fund. Various schemes were resorted to until in February, 1917, the workers for this fund combined with two other Battalion Comforts Funds and established the Coo-ee Comforts Cafe in Isles Lane, where practically the whole income of the fund was earned. The cafe speedily became the social centre of Brisbane, and will remain a vivid memory of the energy and business capacity of the women war workers of Brisbane.

The energetic Committee of the Cafe, assisted by many willing workers, soon built up quite a profitable business, which was able to afford generous help to the boys in the trenches. From this source alone a total of £2276/15/4 was derived in a year and ten months. The

Committee would like to place on record its appreciation of the indefatigable efforts of this willing band of toilers, who did such yeoman service.

The total receipts from all sources amounted to £2850/8/2; the amount spent on comforts amounted to £2411/11/-, leaving a balance of £438/17/2. The amount cabled to the officer commanding the 9th Battalion was £1170, and to the 49th Battalion £1065. A Christmas gift of £125 was sent to the men of the 3rd Field Ambulance in honour of Colonel Graham Butler, their commanding officer, who was medical officer to the original 9th Battalion. £20 was donated to the Christmas Box Fund.

Only when hostilities ceased and trench comforts were no longer required did the Committee cease from their labours on behalf of the brave boys of the 9th and 49th Battalions, and on February 25, 1919, they abandoned active operations. The cafe closed on November 23, 1918, a fortnight after the armistice was signed.

The Committee will meet again to decide in what way they will dispose of the unexpended balance of £438/17/2. Several suggestions have been offered, one being that this sum might be devoted to the foundation of a University scholarship for boys of the 9th and 49th, or their descendants.

Marion T. Coscen
Acting Hon. Secretary

Amelia M. Gollin
Hon. Treasurer.

Clara Robertson
Vice-President.

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